4th April 1950]

Rules for the grant of exemptions from the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act.

* 51 *Q.*—SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri B. Bhima Rao) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether any rules have been made and published with regard to the grant of exemptions relating to Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act; and if so, whether a copy of these rules will be laid on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" No rules have been made or published. Each case is decided on its merits."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" Are there any rules under which these exemptions are granted? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" Section 13 of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act relates to exemptions. This section runs : ' Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, exempt any building or class of buildings from all or any of the provisions of the Act.' This was applied in rare cases where public interests warranted such exemption."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" May I know in how many cases exemptions already granted were cancelled? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" I think notice is necessary."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" May I know whether private buildings in the occupation of private persons have been exempted in the face of the authority given under this Act? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" I want the questioner to repeat his question so that I may answer."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" May I know whether any private building in the occupation of another private person has been exempted from the provisions of this Act wherein no public interest is involved? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" It is a very general question. If the hon. Member could give specific cases and put a separate question, I may be able to answer."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" My question arises out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister. When he said that the Government have powers to exempt any building in public interest, I ask him whether there is any case where any building in which public interest is not involved has been exempted from the operation of this Act? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" I can only answer in general that where it is necessary, it will be considered, and exemption will be given if the individual's case also deserves consideration."